

What is claimed is:

1. (Currently amended) A peripheral switch comprising:

a plurality of sets of keyboard and mouse interfaces, each set of keyboard and mouse interfaces having a keyboard interface and a mouse interface;

a plurality of sets of host interfaces, each set of host interfaces having a host keyboard and mouse interface;

at least one ~~non-keyboard and non-mouse~~ USB peripheral interface that is neither a keyboard interface nor a mouse interface;

at least one host USB interface; and

a master controller configured to switch at least one of the sets of keyboard and mouse interfaces and at least one of the ~~non-keyboard and non-mouse~~ USB peripheral interfaces among the host interfaces;

wherein a keyboard and mouse host is emulated to the keyboard interface and the mouse interface; and

wherein a keyboard and a mouse ~~is~~are emulated to the host interface.

2. (Previously presented) The peripheral switch of claim 1 further comprising:

at least one user controller communicably coupled to the master controller and at least one of the keyboard and mouse interfaces, the user controller being configured to emulate a keyboard and mouse host; and

at least one computer controller communicably coupled to the master controller and at least one of the sets of host keyboard and mouse interfaces, the computer controller being configured to emulate a keyboard and a mouse.

3. (Previously presented) The peripheral switch of claim 2 wherein the at least one user controller and the at least one computer controller are the same controller.

4. (Previously presented) The peripheral switch of claim 2 wherein the at least one user controller and the at least one computer controller are communicably coupled.

5. (Previously presented) The peripheral switch of claim 2 wherein the master controller is configured to select which of the at least one user controllers and which of the at least one computer controllers will communicate with each other.

6. (Previously presented) The peripheral switch of claim 5 wherein the master controller is configured to direct the selected user controller and the selected computer controller to communicate with each other.

7. (Previously presented) The peripheral switch of claim 5 wherein the master controller is configured to select user controllers based on received user identification information and computer controllers based on computer identification information.

8. Cancelled.

9. Cancelled.

10. (Currently amended) The peripheral switch of claim 1 further comprising a switch communicably coupled to the master controller for switching the ~~non-keyboard and non-mouse~~ USB peripheral interfaces between the host USB interfaces.

11. (Previously presented) The peripheral switch of claim 10 wherein the switch is a crosspoint matrix switch.

12. (Previously presented) The peripheral switch of claim 1 wherein the peripheral switch is compatible with both USB 1.x and USB 2.x.

13. (Currently amended) The peripheral switch of claim 1 wherein the peripheral switch is capable of concurrently and independently switching keyboard and mouse interfaces between keyboard and mouse host interfaces and ~~non-keyboard and non-mouse~~ USB peripheral interfaces between host USB interfaces.

14. (Previously presented) The peripheral switch of claim 1 wherein the keyboard interface and mouse interface are each selected from the group consisting of: SUN, PS/2, MAC, USB, Universal, and combinations thereof.

15. (Previously presented) The peripheral switch of claim 1 further comprising a user interface selected from the group consisting of: buttons, RS232 commands, Ethernet, remote toggle switch, on-screen display, and combinations thereof.

16. (Currently amended) A peripheral switch comprising:

- a plurality of sets of keyboard and mouse interfaces, each set of keyboard and mouse interfaces having a keyboard interface and a mouse interface;

- at least one user controller communicably coupled to at least one of the sets of keyboard and mouse interfaces, the user controller being configured to emulate a keyboard and mouse host; and

- a plurality of sets of host interfaces, each set of host interfaces having a host keyboard and mouse interface;

- at least one computer controller communicably coupled to at least one of the sets of host interfaces, the computer controller being configured to emulate a keyboard and a mouse;

- at least one ~~non-keyboard and non-mouse~~ USB peripheral interface that is neither a keyboard interface nor a mouse interface;

- at least one host USB interface; and

- a peripheral switch communicably coupled to at least one of the ~~non-keyboard and non-mouse~~ USB peripheral interfaces and to at least one of the host USB interfaces and configured to switch the ~~non-keyboard and non-mouse~~ USB peripheral interfaces between the host USB interfaces; and

a master controller communicably coupled to the user controller, the computer controller and the peripheral switch and configured to switch at least one of the sets of keyboard and mouse interfaces and at least one of the ~~non-keyboard and non-mouse~~ USB peripheral interfaces between the host interfaces.

17. (Previously presented) The peripheral switch of claim 16 wherein the master controller is configured to direct the selected user controller and the selected computer controller to communicate with each other.

18. (Previously presented) The peripheral switch of claim 16 wherein the peripheral switch is compatible with both USB 1.x and USB 2.x.

19. (Currently amended) The peripheral switch of claim 16 wherein the peripheral switch is capable of concurrently and independently switching the keyboard and mouse interfaces between the keyboard and mouse host interfaces and ~~non-keyboard and non-mouse~~ the USB peripheral interfaces between the host USB interfaces.

20. (Previously presented) The peripheral switch of claim 16 wherein the keyboard interface and mouse interface are each selected from the group consisting of: SUN, PS/2, MAC, USB, Universal, and combinations thereof.

21. (Currently amended) A method for switching at least one keyboard interface, at least one mouse interface, and at least one ~~non-keyboard and non-mouse~~ USB interface that is neither a keyboard interface nor a mouse interface between host interfaces comprising:

emulating a keyboard and a mouse to each host interface;

emulating a host to each keyboard interface and mouse interface;

receiving a switching command at a controller, the switching command containing identification information; and

using the identification information to connect at least one of the keyboard interfaces, at least one of the mouse interfaces, and at least one of the ~~non-keyboard and non-mouse~~ USB interfaces to at least one of the host interfaces.

22. (Currently amended) The method of claim 21, further comprising:

(a) determining whether the ~~non-keyboard and non-mouse~~ USB interface is to be switched concurrently with the keyboard interface and the mouse interface;

(b) concurrently switching the ~~non-keyboard and non-mouse~~ USB interface with the keyboard interface and mouse interface upon a positive determination in step (a).